



**Lake Plains  
Resource Conservation and Development Council, Inc.  
446 West Avenue  
Albion New York 14411**

**Council Officers**

President – Karen Watt  
Orleans County

President-Elect – Margaret Topor  
Niagara County

Secretary/Treasurer – Judy Bennett  
Orleans County

**July 11, 2008**

**To: Lake Plains RC&D Council Members, Cooperating Agencies Personnel, and Other Interested Individuals.**

**The Lake Plains RC&D Council will meet at 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., on Thursday, August 14, 2008.**

**At  
Orleans County, Workforce Development Center  
458 West Avenue, Albion, NY 14411**

**\*\* All Meetings OPEN to the Public. All those interested are encouraged to attend. \*\***

**Agenda**

- 10:00am Meeting Call to Order**  
**Introductions**  
**Quorum Determination**  
**Minutes of Previous Meeting**  
**Treasurer's Report**
- 10:15am Old Business**
- **President-Elect - Vacant Position**
  - **Mid-Atlantic RC&D Councils – Annual Conference 2008**
  - **Local Food Buying Coop**
  - **Wayne County Water Quality Issue – C. MacNeil**
- 11:00am New Business**
- Approval/Cancellation of Project Measures**  
**Coordinator's Report**  
**Other Business**
- 11:45am Next Meeting, Date, Time, Place**
- 12:00pm Lunch**
- 12:30pm Area Plan Development - Continuation**
- 2:00pm Adjourn**

**\*Meeting Dates for 2008 – Oct 9, and Dec 11\***

Visit the Web Site: [www.LakePlainsRCD.org](http://www.LakePlainsRCD.org)

Our vision is a prosperous diverse community that is effectively utilizing, conserving, and sharing the natural resources of the region.

**“For information on facilities or services, or to request sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids at the meeting, please contact JoAnn Kurtis, RC&D Coordinator at (716) 699-2375 x5, at least 10 days prior to the meeting date.”**

**Telephone: 585-589-5320 ext. 4**

**Fax: 585-589-7709**

**E-mail: [sue.reckahn@ny.usda.gov](mailto:sue.reckahn@ny.usda.gov)**

All programs and services of the RC&D Council are offered on a non-discriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital or family status, disability or political beliefs.

## **DRAFT**

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**Introduction(s)** – Welcome to D. Kinyon, Lockport & Erie Canal presentation on “Flight of Five Locks”; C. Meyers, Monroe County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD); and R. Bell, Monroe County Planning.

**Quorum Determination** – YES

**Presentation: “Flight of Five Locks”** – D. Kinyon presented handouts about the “Flight of Five Locks” in Lockport, NY. Discussed were the State and National Heritage Corridor plans, support and endorsement of restoration of historic areas for tourism and recreation. The restoration of the original “Flight of Five Locks” in Lockport is a major historical restoration. A concern is about building Hydro Power Facilities and the nesting of birds and wildlife in the area of the projects. Is there an impact study on the use of the canal? What impact do invasive species have on the Canal, the Locks, and Hydro Power Facilities? What funding sources and foundations could assist with the restoration of the “Flight of Five Locks”? (ICETEA, Federal, State, organizations and private) *A motion to provide technical support for the efforts to restore the “Flight of Five Locks”, made by T. Belling, seconded by G. Squires, and carried by those present.*

**Minutes** – *A motion to approve the meeting minutes of April 04, 2008, made by T. Belling, seconded by G. Squires, and carried by those present.*

**Treasurer’s Report** – A copy of the treasurer’s report provided for review. *A motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report for Audit made by T. Belling, seconded by G. Squires, and carried by those present.*

### **Old Business**

**President-elect Vacant Position** – Carried to next meeting. Those on the committee to propose possible candidates were unable to attend.

### **New Business**

**Envirothon – Monroe County** – Monroe County SWCD requested information concerning support to the Monroe County Envirothon. The Lake Plains RC&D currently provides technical support for the Envirothon with the Genesee County and the Niagara-Orleans Counties. This support included developing Forestry information and exams, reviewing video presentations, and on-site assistance the day of the Envirothon.

**Local Food Buying Coop** – A question presented about developing a Local Food Buying Coop in the Medina area. Is there a Feasibility Study? What crops are available in the local area? What is the possibility of developing a database? What agencies can be brought together to assist in developing this kind of project? This topic is to be further discussed at the next meeting.

**Perimeter Ditches (Wayne County)** – An email received from C. MacNeil, Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, discusses concerns about significant flooding problems in recent years in the Marion and Sodus areas of Wayne County. The Lake Plains members present discussed what other counties have done. Has the Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District been contacted? There are more questions to be asked to find out further information. The Lake Plains RC&D would like to invite C. MacNeil to the next meeting to discuss the following questions:

- Who have you contacted thus far?
- What was done in the past and by whom?
- What is currently being done?
- What is being done by the Towns?
  - Marion – (Board of Supervisors Wayne County, Jolene Bender, Town of Marion Supervisor, P.O. Box 260 Marion NY 14505, 315-926-4145)
  - Sodus – (Board of Supervisors Wayne County, Steve LeRoy, Town of Sodus Supervisor, 14-16 Mill Street, Sodus NY 14551, 315-483-4430)
- Has the Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District been contacted? (Robert Williams, Wayne County SWCD, 10 Leach Road, Lyons NY 14489-9798; 315-946-4136/4137; [www.lakeontario.net/swcd](http://www.lakeontario.net/swcd))

**Approval/Cancellation of Project Measures** – No Approval/Cancellation of Projects to report at this time.

**Coordinator’s Report** – The following is a summary:

**Area Plan** – The Interim Coordinator further developed the SMART Goals discussed at the Special meeting May 15, 2008 to present later in this meeting.

**Other Business**

**NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Service)** – The Lake Plains RC&D Coordinator position was advertised, a panel of eligible candidates was presented to the selecting official and interviewed. An offer made to the top candidates with the offer declined. As of June 16, 2008, the position was re-advertised with an application closing date of July 17, 2008. The advertising of the position is at USAJobs (<http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/>). The position is a GS-0401 Series, Resource Management. Candidates may apply through the following announcements: Status – #08NRCSNY31A and All Sources – #08NRCSNY32B. For further questions about the position, contact the NRCS, Human Resource Office, 441 South Salina Street, Syracuse NY

**Farm Bill** – The first vote of the Farm Bill was not passed due to the lack of a Trade Title. A second Farm Bill was presented, vetoed by the President. This Farm Bill passed congress setting the framework for the next five years. The RC&D program is open for comments and can operate under the Old Farm Bill rules. The RC&D planning process continues to be locally lead with a Coordinator provided to each Council. Suggestions are that the RC&D program is an overlap of NRCS. The Annual Appropriation for funding is voted on each year. The Lake Plains RC&D Council and individuals need to voice their feelings on the Funding of the RC&D program.

**WRP (Wetland Reserve Program)** – The WRP has a cap in the appraisal process which can now be set by the county.

**Mid-Atlantic RC&D Councils Annual Conference** – The Mid-Atlantic RC&D Councils Annual Conference 2008 is September 21-24, 2008 at the Holiday Inn, Clinton New Jersey. For further information, visit the web site at [www.sjrcd.org/ma/Conference.htm](http://www.sjrcd.org/ma/Conference.htm) or contact Dottie Dicheck, North Jersey RC&D, 54 Old Highway 22, Suite 201, Clinton NY 08809, 908-735-0733 x101, [ddicheck@northjerseyrcd.org](mailto:ddicheck@northjerseyrcd.org). The Early Bird registration is due by August 21, 2008 for anyone interested in attending. A vote is to take place at the next meeting concerning Lake Plains RC&D representative to attend the Mid-Atlantic RC&D Councils Annual Conference 2008.

**Preventing Obesity** – What Planning and Development of programs can be brought together to improve the health of the community? What organizations and agencies can work together to assist in developing activities for a healthier community? Can there be development of Green Space, Bike Trails, Hiking/Walking Paths and other activities? With the “**Green Movement**”, are communities developing walking accessibility to local attractions? Is the housing market now promoting the “Green Movement” in the salability of property?

**Black Creek Watershed** – R. Bell reported that R. Remillard was a huge catalyst for the Black Creek Watershed Coalition. The Black Creek Coalition web site is at <http://www.blackcreekwatershed.org/bcmins.htm>.

**Abandonment of the Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad corridor Orchard Park to West Valley** – The following link is to the Western Southtowns Scenic Byway Adobe web document by the University at Buffalo - The Urban Design Project. The information on “The BRP Rails to Trails” information is on page 16. [http://scenic.ap.buffalo.edu/report/WNYSSB\\_VIII\\_Tourism\\_Plan.pdf](http://scenic.ap.buffalo.edu/report/WNYSSB_VIII_Tourism_Plan.pdf) A meeting on the *Abandonment of the Buffalo and Pittsburgh Railroad corridor Orchard Park to West Valley* to be held **July 21, 2008**, at the Sprague Brook County Park, 9674 Foote Road, Glenwood, NY, in the Town of Colden. There is much information on the *Rails to Trails* (<http://www.railtrails.org/index.html>) web site about developing a trail from the abandonment of a railroad.

**Wine Trail** – To date there is no response from Assemblywoman Francine Del Monte’s office.

**Adjourn** – *A motion to adjourn made by G. Squires, seconded by T. Belling, and carried by all present.*

**Next Meeting** – The next meeting scheduled for **August 14, 2008**.

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**\*Proposed Meeting Dates for 2008 – Oct 9, and Dec 11\***

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**Margaret Topor**  
**President**

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**Date**

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**Judy Bennett**  
**Secretary/Treasurer**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

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